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BRONZES BY DEGAS MATISSE RENOIR

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OCTOBER 19 – NOVEMBER 13, 1943

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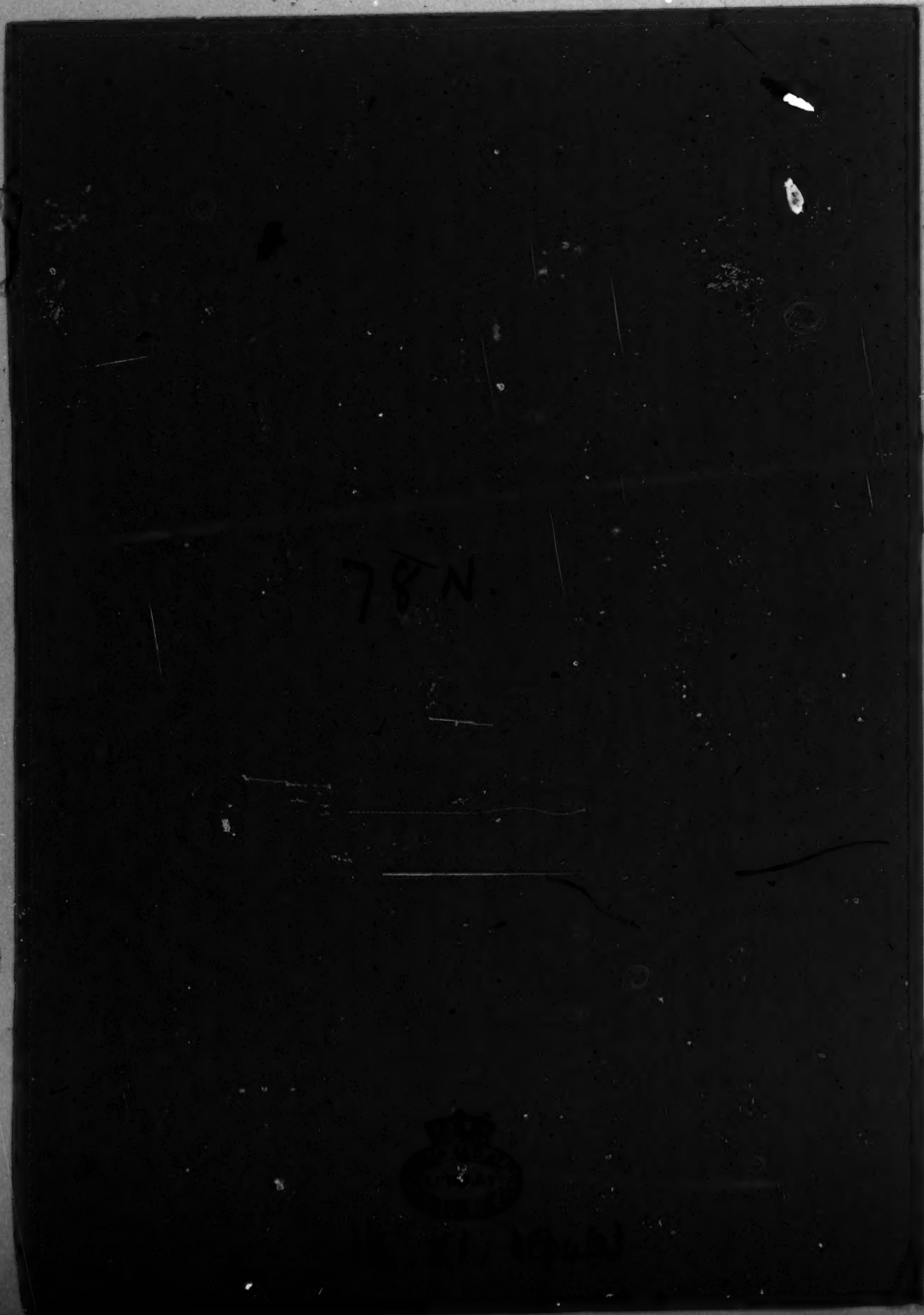
BUCHHOLZ GALLERY

CURT VALENTIN

32 EAST 57TH STREET · NEW YORK



THIS EXHIBITION teaches us many things. The sculpture of three painters is presented to us here: Renoir, Degas, Matisse, and all at once the fragility of the tight partitions that have been established between the two arts becomes clearly evident.

All the more so as the spirit of the great Rodin hovers here invisibly, mingling his sculptor's boldness with the taste for liberty shared by the three painters for whom he traces a path by his luminous trail.

Have they not the same sentiments to express, the same ends to attain, namely: a little sunlight within reach of the hand?

And besides, if we look back only to the recent past, the nineteenth century, and to the country of our three artists, what do we see?

The school of David is inspired only by sculpture, Théodore Géricault is as much a sculptor as a painter, Barye practices the two arts with the same ease, and also the great Carpeaux and Daumier and Courbet and Gauguin, not to mention Renoir and Degas before our eyes. Cézanne, himself, throughout his life, made clairvoyant studies from sculptures and we can establish from his manner of treating volumes all that he owes to this art.

In our time the same thing repeats itself.

Do you think that these men changed heart, changed

brain, each time they picked up the chisel or brush?

Of course, the technique is different, I was about to say the instrument is different; but the music they play is always the same. Each one has his own part and his favorite means, to be sure, but all play the great symphony to the glory of man.

And since we are talking about technique, the sculptures of Renoir have for us a very particular interest.

You know, of course, that with a few exceptions his statues were not sculptured by him, or rather, by his hands. Old and infirm, he had a helper who executed the works under the master's direction. And yet is there anything more "Renoir" than these sculptures in which one feels even the rhythm of his breathing, and his smallest tics? What is still more curious is the fact that when Renoir died, his helper resumed his own sculpture. You will search these productions in vain for the least trace of Renoir; they became again what they had been before, objects without life.

A soul may have life breathed into it and then relapse!

Marvellous!

These few reflections came to me on seeing this exhibition in which the splendor of France shines through the works of three of her chosen sons.

JACQUES LIPCHITZ

New York
September 1943

EDGAR DEGAS [1834-1917]

The 72 wax models, which were found in Degas' studio after his death, probably were done in the last decade of his life. They were cast in bronze after 1917, *and first shown in Paris in* 1921. *Only* La Grande Danseuse (*Catalogue No.* 1) *was shown in* 1884 *at the exhibition of the Salon des Independants in Paris. A smaller version of this bronze is in existence; it is owned by the Albright Art Gallery in Buffalo. Complete sets of the bronzes are owned by the Musée de Louvre in Paris and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York* (*Havemeyer Collection*).

1 La Grande Danseuse
Height 39"
Lent by Jacques Seligman & Co., Inc., New York

2 Woman Looking Back
Height 16"
Lent by Edward M. M. Warburg, New York

3 Massage
Height 00"
Lent by Herman Shulman, Stamford, Conn.

4 Woman in Arm Chair
Height 12¼"

5 Dancer
Height 20"

6 Dancer Resting
Height 15"

7 Gallopping Horse
Height 10"

8 Ballet Dancer
Height 15"

9 Torso
Height 17"

10 Gallopping Horse
Height 11½"

11 Portrait Madame S.
Height 10"

12 Standing Horse
Height 8½"

13 Harvest. Relief
18" x 18½"

14 Torso
Height 17"

15 Dancer
Height 8½"

16 Dancer
Height 17"

HENRI MATISSE [1869-]

Matisse is known to have done 44 bronzes between 1900 and 1935. 18 bronzes are owned by Miss Etta Cone, Baltimore.

17 Seated Girl. 1905
Height 5″
Lent by Mr. Edward M. M. Warburg, New York

18 Reclining Woman. 1907
Height 13″
Lent by Miss Etta Cone, Baltimore

19 Seated Nude. 1908
Height 13¾″
Lent by Miss Etta Cone, Baltimore

20 Two Sisters. 1908
Height 17¾″
Lent by Dr. & Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York

21 Portrait of a Woman. 1908
Height 12″
Lent by Dr. & Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York

22 Standing Woman. 1914
Height 22¼″
Lent by the Museum of Modern Art, New York

23 Small Head
Height 4½″
Lent by Dr. & Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York

24 Reclining Nude
Height 11¼"
Lent by Mr. & Mrs. Sam L. Lewisohn, New York

25 Nude
Height 4"

25 Seated Nude. 1929
Height 28¾"
Lent by Dr. & Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York

27 Tiara au Collier. 1930
Height 8⅛"
Lent by Miss Etta Cone, Baltimore

28 Venus à la Coquille. 1930
Height 13"
Lent by Miss Etta Cone, Baltimore

AUGUSTE RENOIR [1841-1919]

Most of the sculpture by Renoir was executed between 1915 *and* 1919; *however, there are three pieces, Mother and Child* (*Catalogue No.* 29), *and two portraits of Coco* (*Catalogue No.* 30), *which were finished around* 1905. *In addition to the pieces on exhibition, fifteen other pieces are known: Portrait of Coco* (*Relief*), *six portrait heads in relief* (*Corot, Delacroix, Ingres, Cezanne, Monet, Rodin*), *a project for a clock, Paris, Shepherd, Relief for the Base of Venus, Girl with Tambourin, Blacksmith, Head of Venus, and a Bust of Madame Renoir.*

29 Mother and Child
Height 21½"
Lent by the Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington

30 Portrait of Coco
Height 11"

31 La Blanchisseuse
Height 13⅜"

32 Venus Victorieuse
Height 23½"
Lent by Mr. Erich Cohn, New York

33 Judgment of Paris. Relief
29" x 36¼"
Lent by Dr. & Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York

37-40 Drawings

The Buchholz Gallery gratefully acknowledges the generous loans of

The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington

*

Dr. & Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York
Mr. Erich Cohn, New York
Miss Etta Cone, Baltimore
Mrs. Edith Halpert, New York
Mr. & Mrs. Sam L. Lewisohn, New York
Mr. Hugo Perls, New York
Jacques Seligman & Co., Inc., New York
Mr. Herman Shulman, Stamford
Mr. Justin Thannhauser, New York
The Weyhe Gallery, New York

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